

Remarks

Reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested in view of the foregoing amendments and following remarks. Claims 1-6, 8-15, 32-36, and 38-44 are pending in the application. No claims have been allowed. Claims 1, 6, 11 and 32 are independent. Claims 1, 2, 6, 11, and 32 have been amended.

Interview

Applicants thank the Examiner for his time during the telephone interview on August 8, 2007, during which claim 1 was discussed, and during the telephone interview on October 17, 2007, during which Applicants proposed claim amendments. In response to the proposed claim amendments, the Examiner stated that a new search would likely be necessary. Applicants have amended all independent claims with language similar to the proposed claim amendments discussed during the October 17, 2007, interview.

§ 103(a) Rejections

Claims 1-6, 8-15, 32-36, and 38-44 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Geigel et al., U.S. Patent Application No. 2002/0122067 (Geigel), in view of Washino et al., U.S. Reissue Patent No. RE38,079 (Washino) and Kanungo et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,625,307 (Kanungo). In addition, the Action rejects some dependent claims in further view of “Schwab” (e.g., Action, page 5), which Applicants presume refers to U.S. Patent Application No. 2004/0250083 to Schwab et al. (Schwab), as applied in the prior Office action.

Claim 1

Claim 1 has been amended with language from dependent claim 2 and with additional language. For example, see the Application at [0033]. Geigel, separately or in combination with Washino and/or Kanungo, does not teach or suggest the language of claim 1. For example, Geigel, separately or in combination with Washino and/or Kanungo, does not teach or suggest, “making a contact sheet image, the contact sheet image including thumbnail representations of the images contained in the album ... saving, to the removable storage medium, the album of images comprising the compressed image file copies that correspond to the selected images and the

contact sheet image, wherein the album of images is transferable via the removable storage medium to a media reader in the set-top box to display the selected images on the television, and *wherein the set-top box displays the contact sheet image first to inform the viewer of the album being viewed*’ as recited by claim 1. Therefore, claim 1 should be in condition for allowance.

Claim 6, 11, and 32

Claim 6 has been amended to recite, “*wherein the stand-alone set-top box pre-computes video images representing the selected images and stores the pre-computed video images before displaying the selected images on the television so as to reduce flicker.*” Claims 11 and 32 have been amended with similar language. For example, see the Application at [0039] and [0040]. Geigel, separately or in combination with Washino and/or Kanugo, does not teach or suggest the above-cited language of claims 6, 11, and 32, respectively. Therefore, claims 6, 11, and 32 should be in condition for allowance.

In addition, as understood by Applicants, Schwab, separately or in combination with Geigel, Kanugo, and/or Washino, does not teach or suggest the above-cited language of claims 1, 6, 11, and 32, respectively.

Dependent Claims

For at least these reasons discussed above with regard to independent claims 1, 6, 11, and 32, their dependent claims 2-5, 8-10, 12-15, 33-36, and 38-44 should be allowable. Such action is respectfully requested. In view of the foregoing discussion, the Applicants will not belabor the merits of the separate patentability of the dependent claims.

Request for Interview

If any issues remain, the Examiner is formally requested to contact the undersigned attorney prior to issuance of the next Office action in order to arrange a telephonic interview. It is believed that a brief discussion of the merits of the present application may expedite prosecution. Applicants submit the foregoing formal Amendment so that the Examiner may fully evaluate Applicants’ position, thereby enabling the interview to be more focused.

This request is being submitted under MPEP § 713.01, which indicates that an interview may be arranged in advance by a written request.

Conclusion

The claims should be allowable. Such action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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